

CLERK: Mr. President, there are E & R amendments to LB 290.

SENATOR KILGARIN: I move the E & R amendments to LB 290.

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kilgarin, the E & R amendments to LB 290. Do you so move? All those in favor of that motion say aye, opposed no. The motion is carried. The E & R amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, I now have several amendments. The first is offered by Senator DeCamp. Do you want me to read it, Senator? Would that be helpful? (Read DeCamp amendment as found on page 1025 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, could you clobber the gavel? I really want people to listen. Bobby is the only one that is going to pay attention. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, there is an old saying about if you can't beat them, maybe you should join them and that is about what the amendment does. It joins Bobby Clark, Senator Clark, in the three things he stated on the floor and that Senator Haberman and the others stated they wanted. What did they say they wanted? They said they wanted competitive bidding. They said they wanted to end a monopoly of 3M on license plates and as I understood it, they wanted to get the Legislature out of sitting here writing special specifications that were tailored to only one company or whatever. I think from my conversation with Dave Kunz this morning and others, that for sure the first part of this amendment should have no objection whatsoever. The first part changes one word. It strikes the word "background" and says "entire surface" and I think if you don't adopt that amendment for sure, you are going to be guilty of doing precisely what was done before which is tailoring a bill through specifications so that only one company, Flex-O-Lite, can get it. So this clears that up because if the bill passes the way it is, as I read it, and I think you can read the same thing the way it was amended, we are saying the reflective sheeting is only on the background. In other words, you could not cover the numbers. Well reflective sheeting covers the entire plate. That is the whole idea so I urge you to adopt that amendment for sure. The balance of the amendment has to do with exactly what they said they wanted, competitive bidding and letting, not the Legislature, but competent people deciding what the standards for license plates should be. In this case it would be Department of Administrative Services since they oversee our money. They are our treasurer so to speak. The Department of Motor Vehicles, they would be represented among this group. Why? Because they are vested by statute with the responsibility. The prison, corrections officials, they are the ones that make the doggone things. State Patrol, they have been involved in this from the